

State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council

Minutes for Conference Call

Sunday, March 9, 2014

8:00pm – 9:00 pm - All Members – Statewide

Dial: 1 (866) 685-1580

Conference Code: 51 52 81 65 09 #

Members Present: Sai Abbaraju, Joel Baumann, Nick Beckwith, Jacob Bundt, Anne Edwards, Agatha Fenech, Rekha Karuparthy, Mary Korch, Jake Mathahs, Gina Mostafa, Sruthi Palaniappan, Danielle Reyes, Luke Theuma, Benjamin Votroubek, and Cody Woodruff

Members Absent: Rohan Aggarwal, Pablo Haake. Jenna McCoy, Katie Melbourne, and Danielle Reyes

Staff Present: Betsy Penisten and Steve Michael

I. Roll Call and Announcements

Karuparthy took roll call. Haake is currently in Washington DC for the USSYP.

II. Approve Minutes from February 23, 2014

Woodruff moved to approve the February 23, 2014 minutes. Palaniappan seconded. The council unanimously agreed to approve the February 23, 2014 minutes.

III. Upcoming Projects

Penisten told the council about a service project about setting up a bin for a sock donation in local libraries, churches, etc. to give to homeless people. There is a day in Des Moines where you can show your success with this project. Penisten also told the council about the “I Am in Control” website where students can blog about SIYAC or any topic.

Votroubek updated the council about the PSA video. Everything is in place, and now he needs to find a date which works for everyone who is being interviewed. For the interviews, he has asked different educators and people to tell their stories dealing with drugs and alcohol.

Palaniappan updated the council about the book drive. She said everything is confirmed: the location and materials.

IV. Legislative Updates

HF 2409: Woodruff discussed amendments of the cyberbullying bill. There are around 17 amendments. For example, non-public schools would not be involved with this bill. Woodruff disagreed with this amendment. However, one amendment that many members expressed approval was providing student counselors for the victims.

SF2275: The Tan Ban bill was never brought up during debate and is now currently off the calendar.

SF2261: Abbaraju told the council how the suicide prevention bill is going through big amendments such as establishing the center for suicide prevention, which would work under the Department of Education.

V. Officer Updates

Public Affairs: Fenech talked about the blog opportunity. She would like to blog and put quotes in from everyone into the blog. Also, the recruitment process is starting soon.

Service: Korch told the council that Global Youth Service Day is in April. If anyone is interested in the sock drive, e-mail Korch by Thursday and/or attend the conference call on Sunday.

Legislative Affairs: Mathahs told the council that three bills as of now are moving forward: the Tan Ban, Cyberbullying, and Suicide Prevention. He hopes that the Tan Ban will be put onto the calendar again. On the other hand, the Cyberbullying bill will be debated on Tuesday.

Woodruff moved to extend till 9:10. Mathahs seconded. The council unanimously agreed to extend the call until 9:10.

VI. Committee Updates

Mental Health: Abbaraju would like to improve the communication within his council. He would like to set up a conference call soon.

Health: Mostafa received an e-mail from Fenech about having announcements on the radio stations about tanning. Her committee is also e-mailing legislators about the Tan Ban bill. There will also be a Breakfast Campaign meeting next month.

Education: Palaniappan's committee is focusing on other bills currently. However, they are also working on the book drive and Woodruff's suggestion box.

VII. Other Business/Public Comments

Woodruff is working on a project, check your e-mail about his new project.

VIII. Meeting Adjourns

Woodruff moved to adjourn the meeting. Korch seconded. The council unanimously agreed to adjourn.